

CHILD FRIENDLY SPACES

Creating positive impact for migrant parent workers, their children and businesses

What is it?

Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) is a factory-based facility that provides a safe environment for the children of workers to play, access learning opportunities, develop social skills through interactions with other kids and participate in joint activities with their parents.

CFS responds to an urgent need to provide childcare when children are out of school. Every summer, the number of children on production floors or left unsupervised in dorms spike dramatically when school is not in session.

How big is the problem?



24%

of parents who migrated with their children leave them at home unattended



18%

of parents who migrated without their children take them to work during school breaks

CFS serves an important function of keeping children away from production areas or unsupervised dorms, and allow parents to put their minds at ease during shifts. 38% of parents admitted to making mistakes at work due to worries about their children.

CFS operates during the summer but can also run on a year-round basis.

CFS in numbers



82

factories have implemented CFS by 2020



5193

children have attended CFS by 2020



Impact so far

The Centre for Child Rights and Business (The Centre) measures the impact of each CFS project through pre-assessment and post-evaluation surveys. According to an assessment of 6 factories in China in 2020, we found that the project brought long-term benefits to parent workers, their children and factories. Here's what we found:

Impact on children

61%

of parents say children became more active and outspoken

75%

are less worried about their children

43%

got to spend more time with their children & got closer

Impact on parents

99%

of workers believe the factory understands their challenges as workers

75%

of workers report absolutely trusting management

59%

of workers are very satisfied with their factory

Impact on factories

29%

participating parents report that they are more efficient at work

93%

of parents plan to stay at the factory for 2 years or more

How does it work?



Our programme

What's Included?

- Visit to the factory to identify the right space and set-up modalities
- Three-day face-to-face training and detailed guideline on all elements concerning the CFS (legal, safety, child protection, curriculum etc.)
- Remote and on-site implementation support including CFS safety assessment
- On-site visit for impact assessment
- Report card documenting programme impact



“We expect the indirect impact of this programme would be more orders from clients as we prove ourselves to be an attractive employer.”

Mr. Sun, the main person in charge of a CFS in the 2020 programme.

“At BillerudKorsnäs, we are very happy about the programme and its positive impact. We will have internal discussions on how we are going to scale up in the future.”

Kyle Zhang, Senior Compliance Officer, BillerudKorsnäs

How can you get involved as a brand/ buyer?

Brands/buyers can nominate their factories and invite them to the information session. They can also support their suppliers with the external costs of the project.

Who pays for this?

Participating brands support the external costs (training, set up support and monitoring), while in most cases factories cover their internal costs such as the necessary renovations and staff salary.

How to get going?

1. If you know of a factory with a need for CFS, nominate them to join the programme by contacting info@childrights-business.org. Ask your factories to join THE CENTRE's CFS webinars where the programme is explained in detail

Want to learn more?

Click [here](#) to watch a short film about a boy's happy summer at a CFS in 2018.

